

Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2020 at 7:30pm
Meeting held remotely due to COVID-19

Call to Order - First Selectman Chris Spaulding called the meeting order at 7:30pm. Also in attendance were Selectman Stephan Grozinger, Selectwoman Samantha Nestor, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Town Attorney Ira Bloom,

- 1- **Pledge of Allegiance** – The pledge was recited
- 2- **Proclamation** - National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution – First Selectman Spaulding presented a Constitution Week proclamation
- 3- **Diversity Committee interview:** Antonio Benedicto - Mr. Benedicto decided to not be considered for this committee. First Selectman Spaulding suggested the Board of Selectmen vote on the candidates, but Selectman Grozinger asked to wait until the next meeting as he wasn't prepared to vote on this tonight. This item has been tabled until the next Board of Selectmen Meeting.
- 4- **Marketing Committee interview:** Scott Rothstein – this item was tabled
- 5- **Discussion/decision to appoint Gillian Donovan to the Commission for Children and Youth**
Selectman Grozinger moved to appoint Gillian Donovan to the Commission for Children and Youth for a term to end 12/31/20 , Selectwoman Nestor seconded, motion carried unanimously.
- 6- **Survey Research interview:** Jonathan Cooper The Board of Selectmen interviewed Jonathan Cooper
- 7- **Bike and Pedestrian interview:** Myles Dillon The Board of Selectmen interviewed Myles Dillon
- 8- **Economic Vitality Committee Interview:** Adam Klimek The Board of Selectmen interviewed Adam Klimek
- 9- **Discussion/decision to establish a Freedom of Information response policy** Mr. Luiz explained the need for an FOI Policy. Town Attorney Ira Bloom spoke about training sessions so the laws are understood. He spoke about the problems this policy would focus on addressing such as emails, communication, importance of keeping Town email separate from personal and work. He spoke about who will be facilitator and explained the process. First Selectman Spaulding stressed the importance of training new people. Town Attorney Ira Bloom stressed public business needs to be done in public.
- 10- **Discussion/decision to authorize the First Selectman to sign an agreement with Taxserv Services LLC for the collection of outstanding motor vehicle and personal property taxes, following legal review by the**

Town Attorney Mr. Luiz added that the agreement should include utility bills, specifically Ravenwood Water System. He then provided a timeline as to how Taxserv works. Tax Collector Cathy Neblett and Mr. Luiz explained that when motor vehicle taxes are delinquent for a year and a half, that is when they would be turned over to Taxserv. A year delinquent for property taxes and a year and a half for utility taxes. Selectwoman Nestor moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign an agreement with Taxserv Services LLC for the collection of outstanding motor vehicle, personal and utility property taxes, following legal review by the Town Attorney. Selectman Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

11- Discussion/decision to change the job description for Conservation Planner Mr. Luiz explained the process of revising the job description regarding training required for position. Union President, Mark Harper, approved of the change. Selectman Grozinger moved to change the job description for Conservation Planner as proposed. Selectwoman Nestor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

12- Discussion with Animal Control Officer Mark Harper about deer hunting on town property First Selectman Spaulding presented the idea of having a public hearing regarding deer hunting on town property. Animal Control Officer, Mark Harper, spoke about the changes he will be making this year. He explained how too many deer can cause damage to forests and ground growth, motor vehicle accidents and Lyme disease. Mr. Harper said he will not hunt on Moore property or Lachat Town Farm as he feels it is under control. Selectman Grozinger clarified hunting will take place on the Fromson Strassler property Mr. Harper confirmed but said he is only selecting highly wooded properties, no hiking trails etc. Selectman Grozinger stated he is in favor of a public hearing. Selectwoman Nestor also supports the idea about communicating about this program through a public hearing.

13- Discussion/decision to establish a public hearing on October 15, 2020 for the purpose of inviting public commentary on the Animal Control Officer's proposal to allow deer hunting on town property Selectwoman Nestor moved to establish a public hearing at 7:30pm on Thursday, October 15, 2020 for the purpose of inviting public commentary on the Animal Control Officer's proposal to allow deer hunting on town property. Selectman Grozinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

14- Adjournment Selectman Grozinger moved to adjourn at 9:07pm. Selectwoman Nestor seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by:

Randi Derene, Administrative Assistant

Approved: 10-15-2020